

AMENDED CLAIMS

1. Method for the separating-out of supplied items for the batching of these items in weight-determined groups, i.e. placing the items in accordance with their weight and
5 the weight of the items already placed

whereby weight-determination and possibly also a type-determination of the arriving items is carried out,

10 and after which there is effected a selective batching of the items in weight-determined and possibly also type-determined groups

while using transport equipment having an associated control unit which arranges the allocation of the individual items to respective receiving stations for items for the
15 different groups, and for the related selective control of the transport equipment, and

whereby a transfer arrangement of the robot type is used as at least a part of the transport equipment, i. e. with a gripping element for the lifting-free of items from a supply position and a controllable movement system for the transfer of a gripped
20 item directly and selectively to a selected depositing position.

2. Method according to claim 1, by which for the weight or weight-group determination of the items, use is made of a weighing arrangement which is integrated with the gripping element for the weighing of the gripped and liftedfree
25 items.

3. Method according to claim 1, by which a "negative weighing" of the items is carried out for the weightdetermination of the items, namely that the items are supplied to a static weighing device in said supply position and that the item weight
30 is registered as a weight reduction, which takes place by the removal of the individual item.

4. Method according to claim 1, by which use is made of vision equipment for the type-, weight-and/or positiondetermination of the items.

5 5. Method according to claim 1, by which the robot equipment is influenced to carry out a periodic, or alternatively as required, cleaning procedure in its area of operation, namely by the gripping of a supply hose for water or other cleaning agent for the spraying of this on relevant installations in the area.

10 6. Apparatus for the separating-out of supplied items for the batching of these items into weight-determined groups, i.e. for placing the items in accordance with their weight and the weight of the items already placed, said apparatus comprising

- means for carrying out a weight-determination and possibly also a type-determination of the arriving items and

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- means for effecting a selective batching of the items in weight-determined and possibly also type-determined groups comprising transport equipment, said transport equipment having an associated control unit for arranging the allocation of the individual items to respective receiving stations for items for the different groups, and for the related selective control of the transport equipment,

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wherein its transport equipment at least partly consists of a transfer arrangement of the robot type, i.e. with a gripping element for the lifting-free of items from a supply position and a controllable movement system for the transfer of a gripped item directly and selectively to a selected depositing position.

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7. Apparatus according to claim 6, whereby in the robot's gripping system there is inserted a weighing device for the weight-determination of the gripped and lifted-free items.

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8. Apparatus according to claim 6, whereby in the supply position for the items there is a static weighing device for the successive receipt of one or more items for

accumulated weighing-in of the items, so that an operative weightdetermination of a gripped and lifted-free item can be effected by determination of the weight removed hereby.

- 5 9. Apparatus according to claim 6, whereby in connection with a supply area for the items there appears a stop station for the building-up of items in a closely-packed manner, and that from here the robot equipment is arranged to pick up items by gripping activation in changing positions.